

Assembly Bill No. 481—Committee on Natural Resources,

Agriculture, and Mining

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to agriculture; eliminating the requirement for the registration of apiaries; eliminating the annual fee for colonies of bees; eliminating the requirement for a permit issued by the division of agriculture of the department of business and industry to transport apiaries, bees, hives, combs or other used apiary supplies in this state; eliminating the requirement for a permit issued by the division to import into this state certain bees, used beehives, honeycombs or appliances; eliminating the requirement for the inspection of certain apiaries of queen bees; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** NRS 552.085 is hereby amended to read as follows:

552.085 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 552.08505 to ~~{552.0863,}~~ **552.0862**, inclusive, have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

**Sec. 2.** NRS 552.0858 is hereby amended to read as follows:

552.0858 “Disease” means any condition adversely affecting bees, or their brood, which may become epidemic, including ~~{American foulbrood, mites of both the *Acarapis woodi* and the *Varroa jacobsoni* species,}~~, **without limitation, bacteria, viruses or invertebrate pests** and the presence of undesirable genetic characteristics including those associated with *Apis mellifera scutellata* or hybrids of this subspecies.

**Sec. 3.** NRS 552.160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

552.160 1. The division may order the inspection of any or all apiaries and all buildings used in connection with ~~{such}~~ **those** apiaries in any district or districts of the state annually, or ~~{oftener}~~ **more often** if deemed necessary, or upon report to it that there is reason to believe that any apiary ~~{or apiaries}~~ may be infected with any disease, or that any honey, honeycombs or beeswax are exposed to robber bees.

2. If ~~{such}~~ **the** inspection discloses any disease, the division may:

(a) Order the owner or any person in possession of the apiary to destroy the diseased bees, hives and appliances **in a manner prescribed by the division and** at the expense of the owner;

(b) Order the owner or any person in possession of the apiary to treat the hives and appliances **in a manner prescribed by the division and** at the expense of the owner ~~{}~~ if, in the opinion of the inspector, the nuisance can be abated by treatment rather than destruction; or

(c) Proclaim a quarantine in accordance with chapter 554 of NRS.

3. ~~{If inspection discloses the existence of American foulbrood, the}~~ **The** order for destruction or treatment must require compliance within ~~{not less than 24 hours nor more than 72 hours. Any other order must specify}~~ a reasonable time with reference to the nature of the disease.

4. If ~~{such}~~ *the* inspection discloses honey, honeycombs or beeswax exposed to robber bees, the division may order the abatement of ~~{such}~~ *the* nuisance in a manner appropriate to the circumstances.

5. The order must be served upon the owner or person in possession of the apiary personally or by registered or certified mail, or, if ~~{such}~~ *that* person cannot be located, by posting the order in a conspicuous place at the apiary.

**Sec. 4.** NRS 552.212 is hereby amended to read as follows:

552.212 1. A person shall not ship or transport into this state any queens or other bees in screened cages without comb unless the shipment is accompanied by a certificate of an authorized officer of the state of origin certifying that all bees intended for shipment:

- (a) Were inspected within 60 days before the date of shipment; and
- (b) Were found to be free from disease and pests.

2. The division ~~{shall}~~ *may* hold a shipment which is not accompanied by the certificate of inspection and notify the person who owns or controls the bees that they will be destroyed after 48 hours ~~{from}~~ *after* the time of the notice unless a proper certificate of inspection is supplied. If the certificate is not supplied within that time, the bees may be destroyed.

**Sec. 5.** NRS 552.215 is hereby amended to read as follows:

552.215 When an inspection is requested by any person ~~{for the purpose of obtaining a certificate of inspection for bees or appliances, the applicant for such certificate}~~ *to determine the presence of disease or colony strength, the person who requests the inspection* shall pay a reasonable fee as prescribed by the division to pay the expenses of the inspection.

**Sec. 6.** NRS 552.255 is hereby amended to read as follows:

552.255 The following ~~{are hereby}~~ *may be* declared to be public nuisances and are subject to abatement under the provisions of this chapter:

1. Diseased bees and any apiary in which they are found.
2. Honey, honeycombs and beeswax containing honey which are exposed to robber bees.

**Sec. 7.** NRS 561.055 is hereby amended to read as follows:

561.055 1. Three members of the board must be actively engaged in range or semirange cattle production, one in dairying, one in general farming, *one in general agriculture*, one in growing crops which are planted in rows spaced to permit mechanical cultivation, one ~~{in beekeeping, one}~~ in the control of pests, one in the petroleum industry and one in raising nursery stock.

2. ~~{No}~~ *Not* more than two members may be residents of the same county, and the range or semirange cattle production members must be residents of different counties.

**Sec. 8.** NRS 552.0857, 552.0863, 552.155, 552.157, 552.200, 552.210, 552.214, 552.220 and 552.270 are hereby repealed.